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OO RUEHPT  
DE RUEHBY #1022 3240515  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O 200515Z NOV 09  
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2257  
INFO RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY 1169  
RUEHKT/AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU PRIORITY 0280  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY 1209  
RUEHNY/AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY 1327  
RUEHOT/AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY 0007  
RUEHTC/AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY 2399  
RUEHWL/AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON PRIORITY 0160  
RUEHPT/AMCONSUL PERTH PRIORITY 5055  
RUEHBN/AMCONSUL MELBOURNE PRIORITY 6789  
RUEHDN/AMCONSUL SYDNEY PRIORITY 5057  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 2040

UNCLAS CANBERRA 001022

SIPDIS

STATE FOR PRM/ANE REBECCA KINSEY; MARK WEINBERG

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [BT](#) [IN](#) [NP](#) [PGOV](#) [PREF](#) [PREL](#) [AS](#)

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIA IS ACCEPTING BHUTANESE REFUGEES

REF: STATE 113863

[¶1.](#) (U) Australia is committed to the work of the Core Group. Approximately 220 Bhutanese refugees were granted visas between July 2006 and June 2008. In September 2008, the Minister for Immigration and Citizenship, Chris Evans, announced that Australia would accept 5,000 Bhutanese refugees over five years. Approximately 800 Bhutanese refugees have been granted visas since September 2008. They are being resettled throughout Australia.

[¶2.](#) (U) Comment: The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's South and Central Asia Branch would be interested in the number of refugee visas the US plans to grant to Bhutanese refugees this year. DFAT would also like a confirmation of the number of Bhutanese refugees accepted in the U.S. last year. The number quoted by DFAT is 5,300. Please email responses to Canberra's POC at [strohmeiyervb@state.gov](mailto:strohmeiyervb@state.gov). End comment.

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